

GLADIOLUS FOR 1956

From

MERLE D. ALLEN

P. O. Box 23

OWATONNA, MINNESOTA

TERMS OF SALE - The prices quoted are parcel post prepaid. Any express shipment will be collect. All shipments via parcel post will be made when weather permits. All bulbs are offered subject to previous sale. The minimum order is \$3 because of the cost of postage. If you want to include an estimated amount towards the postage, you will be more than repaid by the extras which will be included.

BONUS BULBS - I have many letters from my customers thanking me for the excellent bulbs they have received, my generosity in including extras, and the method of packaging for shipment. You will be given bonus bulbs in proportion to the size of your order. You may either have an overcount of the items listed on your order, or you may list varieties you would like to try at the bottom of the order sheet and I will do my best to comply.

1957 INTRODUCTIONS

566 LAVENDER BLUSH (Allen 1957) Lavender Blush will be one of my 1957 introductions. It had been scheduled for 1956 but is being held for further propagation. It was entered in the test gardens in 1956 (Ohio State Gladiolus Society) and scored 85 with an exhibition rating of A and a commercial rating of B. It has been released by them as worthy of introduction and can be briefly described as "A clean lavender, a little lighter in the throat and out onto the raised midribs, slightly deeper feathering to the edge, and ruffled." You will want this clean lavender in your garden, and present plans call for co-introduction with other commercial growers. It will be entered in the All American test gardens in 1956.

SEEDLING 12 - 49

Here is another seedling that will be introduced in 1957. It is best described as a deep rose Spic & Span. It has inherited all the best qualities of both its parents, Burma and Spic & Span, and has been hailed by all who have grown it to be a color unlike any in its class at present. It will also be in the All American trials in 1956. Although it has not been named at the present time you will want it in 1957, and I ask you to await its coming, and watch for announcements.

Here are some of the reactions of others who have grown it on trial, "I don't know of anything that color in a glad; I really like your 12 - 49. Alvin R. Bork!" "I can truthfully say that you are off your rocker if you do not introduce 12-49. I had a spike of this with 21 buds, 5 open, 7 showing color and could have easily been judged the grand champion of any show. Louis Blazek, Iowa." "The rose seedling is by far the best of those you shipped me. It really has all the characteristics of Spic and Span, except the color. D. Puerner, Wis." "A deep rose Spic and Span. Carl Fischer, Minn."

SIZE OF BULBS - LARGE (L) size bulbs are one and one-quarter inches in diameter or more. This size makes the largest spikes and flowers. Sizes No. 1 and No. 2. MEDIUM (M) size bulbs are from three-fourths of an inch to an inch and one-quarter. All bloom splendidly. Sizes No. 3 and No. 4. SMALL (S) size bulbs are not guaranteed to bloom, but under favorable conditions will bloom and produce fine large bulbs the following year. Sizes are No. 5 and No. 6.

No bulblet orders after April 1, 1956.

NOTE - I will refund the purchase price on any order found unsatisfactory upon receipt, and promptly returned, but responsibility for the crop is denied. 1955 was the worst glad growing year experience by many growers, which will cause a shortage of bulbs in many sections. Whether you order from me, or some other reputable grower, you should place your order early so that your order can be filled complete and with choice bulbs. On late orders you should make a second choice.

We acknowledge each order by card or letter as soon as received.

#####

PRICE LIST All specially priced
GROUP 1

506 Lorelei (Howell 55) -Lorelei's brilliant 1955 show record is proof that its pre-introductory claims were not exaggerated. Among its many awards last summer was its selection as "Most Beautiful" and Binghampton. To appreciate this giant ruffled cream, you must grow it yourself. Blooms well from medium and small bulbs.

Large: 1 for \$2	Medium: 1 for \$1.50	Small: 1 for \$1	Bulblets: 10 for \$1.50
10 for \$16	10 for \$12	10 for \$8	100 for \$10

560 Good Morning -This giant size corona type gladiolus has performed well here during the last two years of growing. It is somewhat like the variety "Corona" except that it is much larger, much taller, and with a brighter and more definite halo of rose at the edge of each petal. It is also a great bloomer from mediums and smalls. Florists love this one.

Medium: 1 for 75¢	Small: 1 for 50¢	Bulblets: 10 for \$1
10 for \$6	10 for \$4	100 for \$7

462 Tafetta - This is a fine rose-pink, something the color of "Trails End", but without its faults. 6 to 8 wide open florets open on a medium sized spike of 18 buds. It blooms in about 80 days, and may be described as a light to medium rose-pink with a creamy-yellow throat. The texture suggests the name. Tafetta can win on the show table when well grown, but its chief value lies with the florist.

Medium: 1 for 75¢	Small: 1 for 50¢	Bulblets: 10 for \$1
5 for \$3	5 for \$2	100 for \$7

310 Champagne (Howell 54) - Here is a very early (70 days) light yellow that I like very much. It is very clean, has a sparkle to it, and can win on the show table, although it makes excellent early flowers.

Medium: 1 for 50¢	Small: 1 for 25¢	Bulblets 10 for 50¢
5 for \$2	5 for \$1	100 for \$4

GROUP 1 (Contd)

566 Crinoline Belle (Bork 54) - Lovely new Butterfly Type corsage variety of rich orchid with a snowy-white throat. Opens 5-6 nicely ruffled and artistically winged florets on 50 inch spikes, a splendid grower and fine propagator. Blooms early and is really distinctive.

Large: 1 for \$1 Medium: 1 for 75¢ Small: 1 for 50¢ Bulblets: 10 for 50¢
 5 for \$4 5 for \$3 5 for \$2 100 for \$3

300 White Wedgwood (Allen 54) - A heavily ruffled pure white with light cream throat. Blooms in 80 days. Its chief value is as a cut flower for it does not have the height to compete on the show table, but it has a flower second to none.

"White Wedgwood is as lovely as ever. A. Bork, N. J."

"We are now cutting some beautiful spikes of White Wedgwood, and everyone here is very much in love with it. Tischler Gardens, Minn."

Large: 1 for 25¢ Medium: 2 for 30¢ Small: 2 for 20¢ Bulblets: 15 for 25¢
 5 for \$1 5 for 60¢ 5 for 40¢ 100 for \$1
 10 for \$2 10 for \$1.20 10 for 80¢

#####

PRICE LIST Large: 1 for 75¢ Medium: 1 for 50¢ Small: 1 for 25¢ Bulblets:
 GROUP 2 5 for \$3 5 for \$2 5 for \$1 10 for 50¢

BLUE DEVIL - (medium and small only) A lovely blue that has done very well here. Throat is oddly marked with red-violet and white. One of the most dependable in the blue or violet class.

KAREN - A very popular rose-purple with a cream throat. Very fine novelty. Florets are somewhat waved and well rounded with 8-10 open at a time. This is one you will surely like.

SNOWCLAD - One of the finest pure whites in the giant class. Very tall, very trustworthy, and should make one of the best cutflower whites. It has a creamy yellow throat. This one can really take the drought and heat.

#####

PRICE LIST Large: 1 for 50¢ Medium: 1 for 35¢ Small: 1 for 25¢ Bulblets:
 GROUP 3 5 for \$2 5 for \$1.40 5 for \$1 8 for 25¢
 10 for \$4 10 for \$2.80 10 for \$2 100 for \$3

A. B. COUTTS - An excellent exhibition gladiolus in the giant buff class. A huge peachy to apricot buff, blending further into deep yellow in the throat. Clean, smooth florets, long flowerheads, perfect form and placement.

BRANDYWINE - Lovely silky maroon-purple of a distinct shade. The medium-large flowers have a smooth enameled finish. Tall and a healthy grower.

FIRE OPAL - Bright salmon-orange with yellow throat. Practically non-fading. Spikes of moderate height and an excellent color.

GROUP 3 (Contd)

HARRISBURGER - (Large and small bulbs only) Marvelous giant red of a very brilliant, intense shade. Not a scarlet, but an extremely rich, bright pure red. Very late and does very well from small bulbs.

KING SIZE - This giant of giants is a clear medium-light salmon with a few carmen lines on a rich cream throat. Opens many blooms up to 8 inches on an immense flowerhead. Plants grow consistently over 6 feet tall.

LAVENDER MIST - (Medium and small bulbs only) Here is a very fine early lavender-pink. Very clean, grows tall, many open, and dependable.

MID-AMERICA - (MEDIUM ONLY) You will be surprised to see this old one listed here. Ordinarily I do not go for special strains of a glad, but I did acquire such a strain of this one, have grown it for several years, and the bulbs will winter. It is just like the original Mid-America, with the important exception that it has bulb health. It propagates slowly, and therefore my stock is small.

PINK DIAMOND - One of Fischer's finest introductions. A delicate light orchid pink with small greenish-cream throat, a very beautiful combination. This one is very nicely ruffled and will open many on tall spikes. Truly a beautiful flower.

PRINCESS - (Medium and small only) This one is fast replacing Elizabeth the Queen because of its fine performance. A fine medium lavender with slightly darker throat. Opens many florets at once, tall spikes, and is tops for exhibition or a cut-flower.

SNOWDRIFT - Fischer's beautiful, ruffled white, the winner of so many championships. When well grown this one may well be the champion, but it can be tempermental at times, however, was excellent in the drought and heat of 1955 for me.

TRAVELER - A light rose-pink with a small deeper throat mark in each floret. Has slightly ruffled florets, very good placement and attachment. This one is a real exhibition glad and can bring home the bacon for you. Truly a perfectionist's flower.

WHITE CLOUD - One of the whitest of all whites, and also one of the most beautiful florets. It will open a goodly number of large, round florets that are heavily ruffled and has good height. It also stands the heat and drought well.

#####

PRICE LIST	Large: 1 for 35¢	Medium: 1 for 25¢	Small: 2 for 30¢	Bulblets:
GROUP 4	5 for \$1.40	5 for \$1	5 for 60¢	10 for 25¢
	10 for \$2.80	10 for \$2	10 for \$1.20	100 for \$2

FORSYTHIA - One of the best of the yellows. Buds are chartreuse, changing to a clear medium yellow on opening. Capable of making grand spikes, with 6-8 florets open at one time.

HEIRLOOM - Clear medium lavender with small pure white throat and midrib lines. Opens 7-8 nicely frilled florets on spikes of medium height. Has been a big prize winner on the show table. Our experience has been excellent from medium bulbs.

GROUP 4 (Contd)

REGINA - Beautiful light orange with deeper throat. Excellent substance, ruffled, and can make grand spikes with 6-7 very large florets open.

PURPLE BURMA - A sport of Burma. Like Burma it has its same fine qualities such as heavily ruffling, velvety texture, long heads, and vigorous growth. It is a lovely true purple.

THE PHEASANT - A novelty. Resembles somewhat the breast of the cock pheasant in color. Classed as 380, so is a smoky in the 300 class and has won the blue for me several times.

ROSITA - Big and beautiful is this medium rose with light gray edging around the petals and a deeper rose throat. Has won many awards on the show table.

RUFFLED EBONY - Very beautiful deep black red of distinctive form. One of the most beautiful glads of its color, and one of the most ruffled. Has a rich velvety sheen. Does not open too many at one time, but enough to win or make excellent baskets.

SPARKLING EYES - White, with clear violet-purple blotch. Ruffled florets with 7-8 open on a 20 bud spike. This one is quite different in the blotched white varieties and attracts instant attention.

#####

PRICE LIST	Large: 1 for 25¢	Medium: 2 for 30¢	Small: 2 for 20¢	Bulblets:
GROUP 5	5 for \$1	5 for 60¢	5 for 40¢	15 for 25¢
	10 for #2	10 for \$1.20	10 for 80¢	100 for \$1

A DORABLE - Clean sulphur cream blending into a deeper amber creamy throat. Buds have a greenish sheen. Slightly ruffled florets on very strong stems. Very tall and very vigorous in growth.

ANN SHERMAN - Beautiful clear shell pink with raised white midribs. The heavily ruffling and fluting are very prominent and add to the beauty of the flower. Has a long spike with many buds, about 7 open and many more showing color.

ALFRED NOBEL - A deep pink with a blotch of cream extending on ribs. Makes very spectacular, straight spikes with long heads, even from small bulbs.

BETTER TIMES - (LARGE AND MEDIUM ONLY) An old timer but very difficult to beat in the blue or violet class. An early light-blue violet with a deeper throat and one of the few dependable violets.

CATHERINE BEATH - This is a very clean and deep yellow, classed 312. It has one of the highest color ratings, is an excellent commercial, and superior for exhibition. Spikes stand strong and wiry, and will open up to 9 and they are always well placed. Plants and bulbs maintain wonderful health. Florets resist soggy weather.

CRUSADER - Here is a deluxe orchid-throated glad. A frosty, snow-white, beautiful ruffled, with a purple-pansy blotch in the throat. A stunning variety.

FRANCESCA - A gorgeous pinkish-lavender that has done well here. It will open many heavily ruffled florets on tall spikes. It is great for exhibition. It is a "Must" if you do not have it.

MESSA MIST - A nice light lavender-gray sort of pastel. It opens many florets on a heavy well-built spike. This is different than any other glad and has really made a hit in the shows, with the florists, and with visitors to my garden.

NEGUS - (Medium and small only) Tall growing, deep black-red with velvety sheen. Will open many on a good spike. This is one of the finest dark reds on the market today. One that does not burn in the sun.

PINK CHIFFON - Its lovely soft orchid-pink coloring is the outstanding feature of this glad. It is close to the color of the old favorite, Rima.

POINSETTIA - Color is light spectrum red with no markings. Will open many and florets are very large at times. Slightly ruffled and will not wilt.

GROUP 5 (Contd)

ROBERT THE FIRST - Here is an odd glad. Classed as any other color in the 300 group. It is a good exhibition smoky, has good height with a large number open. Hard to describe the color, but primarily a blotched buff variety. This one will win the blue ribbon for you in its class.

TAJ MAHAL - A large creamy white, heavily ruffled. This one has been very dependable in the heat and drought

WHITE TOWER - The giant pure white with vivid pink blotch. Admittedly one of the best blotched varieties.

#####

PRICE LIST	Large: 2 for 25¢	Medium: 3 for 25¢	Small: 5 for 25¢	Bulblets:
GROUP 6	5 for 50¢	5 for 35¢	10 for 40¢	
	10 for \$1	10 for 70¢		25¢ per package

BELVIDERE - A n excellent black red.

BOLDFACE - A striking deen-calmon blotched variety.

BRIDAL ORCHID - (LARGE ONLY) A huge light lavender.

CHINOOK - A tall clear deep salmon.

DARK DAVID - (LARGE ONLY) A huge, ruffled black red.

DOLLY VARDEN - A blazing salmon with cream throat. (LARGE BULBS ONLY)

ELMERS ROSE - (LARGE AND MEDIUM ONLY) A fine ruffled deep rose.

FRIENDSHIP - One of the finest early light pinks.

GENE - One of the best, early, ruffled light yellows.

GOLD - An excellent color. Deep yellow and outstanding.

GOLDEN DAWN - A fine tall light yellow.

HEART O' GOLD - One of the earliest glads. White with golden throat.

IVORY QUEEN - (MEDIUM AND SMALL ONLY) A fine cream.

KING DAVID - A perfection in the ruffled purple class.

LAVENDER BEAUTY - One of the finest of the deep lavenders.

LADY ANNE - The ultimate in the large early whites.

LIEF ERICKSON - (MEDIUM AND SMALL ONLY) Huge, deep greenish cream.

MANCHU - The oriental glad.

NORDIC QUEEN - A soft flesh pink blending to a creamy throat.

PATROL - The buff glad that wins all the honors.

ROSY FUTURE - A fine rose pink variety.

RED CHARM - (LARGE AND MEDIUM ONLY) The standard red glad.

RED CHERRY - A fine early red.

SANS SOUCCI - Very rich glowing scarlet.

SIERRA SNOW - A fine large white.

SPIC & SPAN - (LARGE AND MEDIUM ONLY) The best deep pink.

SALMONS GLORY - A fine early blotched cream.

TIVOLI - (LARGE ONLY) A huge rose pink.

THE RAJAH - One of the finest ruffled purples.

THE ROAN - Handsome deep red interlaced with veinings of white.

VELVET MANTLE - One of the finest of the early black reds

GROUP 6 MIXTURE - 25 large bulbs from above listing, entire color range, \$2.

PRICE LIST SMALL FLOWERED AND MINIATURE GLADIOLUS
GROUP 7 All specially priced

- LITTLE GOLD - A favorite yellow, richly ruffled. Beautiful in arrangements.
L- 2 for 25¢, M- 3 for 25¢, S- 5 for 25¢, Blts. 25¢ per package.
- ATOM - Scarlet edged white. One of the earliest of glads.
Priced the same as Little Gold.
- BO PEEP - Buff-pink with yellowish throat faintly dusted red. Very
heavily ruffled. Priced the same as Little Gold.
- STARLET - One of the best whites. Florets nicely ruffled on dainty airy spikes.
Priced the same as Little Gold.
- RUBY - Medium red, tall and very early.
Priced the same as Little Gold.
- LADY KILLER - A ruffled buff variety that is small flowered and tall.
Priced the same as Little Gold.
- PINK DOTS - Here's one if you want small bouquets. Pure white with pink dots
on each petal. A knock out. Priced the same as Little Gold
- OCEAN SPRAY - A cream miniature that wins a lot of prizes.
Priced the same as Little Gold.
- CORSAGE - Here's a rose that's made for corsages. Stock limited.
L- 1 for 25¢, M- 2 for 30¢.
- PELLETIER D'OISY - One of the oddest of all small glads and in big demand. Color
is chartreuse with an orange edge and orange stippling over the
flower. Great for arrangements. ANY SIZE BULB 40¢ each.

#####

SPECIAL SEEDLING DEAL - During my years of hybridizing I have grown thousands of seedlings. Those that I liked I have increased in stock and have thoroughly tested them in all parts of the United States. If this testing program showed that they did not do as well elsewhere as at home, I will not introduce them even though they may be a great deal better than others in their class on the market today. These listed below will never be introduced by me, but they are not junk by any means, for I have grown them for years, will still continue to grow them for my local flower trade as they all perform for me.

If you are interested in trying them, the price is the same as GROUP 6.

Seedling #300 - This one is a ruffled 300 white. It has a color value of 87 in the test gardens, which is very high. It will have up to 18 buds, the placement, separation of buds, and access to cutting are good. I have won the honor of the best spike in the show with this seedling. One test garden report called it a 300 Lorelei in appearance.

Seedling #417 - This one was being propagated for an improved Pactolus. It is identical to Pactolus, one of its parents, with the exception of its being a slightly lighter yellow, a more distinct blotch in the throat, and the absence of streaking of the blotch throughout the yellow. For me Pactolus never wintered too well, nor did the bulblets germinate well, but not so with this one. I have discarded Pactolus and use this one. One hybridizer uses it in his program.

Seedling #454 - This one I use extensively for the local flower trade. It is a black red with a creamy midrib. It will bloom in about 72 days with long stretchy flower heads, and stands the heat and drought well. It had a color value of 84 in the test gardens. It will have at least 7 open, many in color with plenty of buds. I once won the best red seedling in a state gladiolus show with this one. I have a very large stock of it and can supply almost any demand.

Seedling 370 - This is a highly ruffled 300 purple. It has a color value of 85 in test garden reports. It can be described as an intensely ruffled purple with lighter throat and deeper feathering to the edge. It is much in demand by local florists in their make-up work. Blooms in about 70 days, and all sizes of bulbs will make saleable spikes. I have a very large stock of this item.

Seedling #421 - This is not my own seedling but rather one that I acquired somewhere, some place. I have grown it for years because I liked it very much. It propagates very slowly, but is very pretty, a light orange, blotched very nicely, tall, straight, strong stems, and much in demand for the local trade, and could win on the show table. My stock of this is limited, but I do have some mediums and large bulbs to dispose of should you be interested.

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

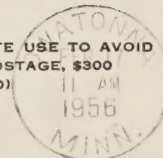
LIBRARY

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

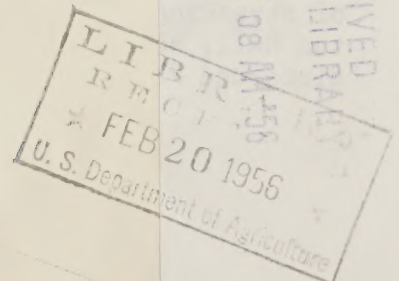
OFFICIAL BUSINESS

PRINTED MATTER

PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE TO AVOID
PAYMENT OF POSTAGE, \$300
(GPO)



Library, U. S. Dept. of Agriculture,
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.



Bibl.